

[18 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4
24	Tamil Nadu	1,18,57,504	6,51,321
25	Tripura	5,55,724	9,93,426
26	Uttar Pradesh	3,51,48,377	1,07,963
27	Uttaranchal	15,17,186	2,56,129
28	West Bengal	1,84,52,555	44,06,794
29	Andman & Nicobar Islands	NSC	29,469
30	Chandigarh	1,57,597	-
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4,104	1,37,225
32	Daman & Diu	4,838	13,997
33	Delhi	23,43,255	NST
34	Lakshadweep	NSC	57,321
35	Pondicherry	1,57,771	-

*The figure for Manipur excludes Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur.

NSC - No Scheduled Caste notified.

NST - No Scheduled Tribe notified.

Scholarship for SC and ST students

2842. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have not yet released the scholarship amounts meant for the SC, ST students of Andhra Pradesh during the current year;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the pending amount;
- (c) by when the said amounts are likely to be released; and
- (d) the measures Government contemplate to ensure that the money is disbursed to the deserving students without any undue delay in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):

(a) to (d) No, Sir. Under the Pre-matric and Post matric scholarship scheme for Scheduled Castes, Rs. 1.57 crore and Rs. 18.14 crore have been released respectively during current year. The balance admissible central assistance against pending demands of Rs. 18.83 crore and Rs. 292.26 crore respectively will be released in due course. Under the Post matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Tribes, against demand of Rs. 44.12 crore, Rs. 44.03 has been released.

Welfare of older persons

†2843. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of old persons is increasing constantly in the country but most of them are living in poverty;
- (b) the number of old persons in the country and the reasons for increase in their number;
- (c) the efforts made by the Government for mobilizing regular source of income for old persons and to improve their living standard; and
- (d) the manner in which Government are ensuring that only needy persons should get the benefit of said efforts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):

(a) and (b) As per the Census 2001, the number for older persons in the country is 7,06,90,000. Improved life expectancy has contributed to the increase in the number of older persons. No survey has been undertaken to ascertain the poverty levels among the aged.

(c) and (d) The Central Government is providing additional central assistance (ACA) to State Governments at the rate of Rs. 200/- per month per beneficiary under National Old Age Pension Scheme to pay pension to destitute older persons.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.